

HASTE IN THE CANAL TREATY.

RELIEF THAT WE MUST YET
FIGHT FOR MONROE DOCTRINE.

That Was One Reason—Another Was Germany's Suspected Opposition—Columbia Cuts Down the Annual Rental to \$250,000—Treaty Sent to the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The Panama Canal treaty, which was signed yesterday, was sent to the Senate this afternoon by the President. A combination of circumstances was responsible for the satisfactory conclusion of the canal negotiations between the United States and Colombia. For a month the fate of the Panama project hung in the balance, and it was only through the determined attitude of the Administration that Colombia was finally brought to terms.

Within the past ten days the Colombian Government has been made to understand that President Roosevelt had determined to negotiate a treaty with Nicaragua and Costa Rica for the construction of an inter-oceanic canal over the Nicaraguan route if the amount demanded by the United States for the annual rental of the strip of territory to be ceded to the United States was not reduced to a figure which this Government regarded as fair and equitable. Colombia's response to this virtual ultimatum was an expression of willingness to make a radical cut in the amount of the rental upon which she had insisted. Up to that time she held out for an annuity of \$400,000. The cut made was \$150,000, bringing the annuity down to \$250,000.

After carefully considering the Colombian concession President Roosevelt decided to take no action in regard to it until he had obtained the views of leaders in the Senate as to the chances of the ratification of a treaty that would provide for an annual payment of that amount to Colombia. In previous conferences with the same Senators, the President and Secretary Hay had been informed that it was the fact was developed that the Administration had reason to believe that Germany was working quietly to prevent the consummation of the canal deal. This led to a discussion of the necessity for the possession of the United States, in time of war, of a convenient passageway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

It is understood that there was practically unanimous opinion among the conferees that the United States would ultimately have to fight for the maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine and that, with this danger ahead, neglect to begin as soon as possible the construction of an inter-oceanic canal would be almost criminal. The upshot of the conference was an agreement to accept the offer of Colombia to fix the annuity to be paid to that Government at \$250,000, and that no time should be lost in signing the treaty and transmitting it to the Senate for consideration. Assurances were given the President that the treaty would be ratified before the conclusion of the present session of Congress.

A draft of the treaty, in readiness for signature, had been made more than a month ago. The only blank space in the document relating to the amount of an annuity. This was filled out with the figure representing the amount which Colombia had agreed to accept, and the complete document was taken to Secretary Hay's house yesterday. Mr. Hay had not been at the State Department since he left there on Monday afternoon, having been confined to his home by a severe cold contracted in New York last week. During the day he had several conferences with Dr. Herran and William Nelson Cromwell, the counsel of the new Panama Canal Company. The treaty was signed at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon in Mr. Hay's library by Mr. Hay and Dr. Herran.

The treaty was sent to the Senate by President Roosevelt this afternoon and was read at an executive session held for that purpose. Nearly five hours were spent by State Department clerks today in making a copy of the document, a necessary detail which must be prepared with the greatest attention to accuracy. The treaty proper was sent to the White House as soon as the printer's copy had been finished, accompanied by the duplicate document, which was for the convenience of the Senate in securing an accurate printed edition.

Twenty-three articles compose the treaty, which is very long and has been running in its reading to the Senate. It provides for the transfer to the United States of the right to build the canal and all other rights conceded to the new Panama Canal Company. A strip of territory extending three miles on each side of the canal is rented to the United States for the term of 100 years. Actual sovereignty over this strip is not conferred on the United States, a provision of the Colombian Constitution forbidding alienation of territory, but the option is given this Government of renewing the lease at the expiration of the 100 years, which amounts practically to the right of perpetual control. The territory embraced in the strip is to be governed jointly by the Government of the United States and the Government of Colombia.

For the session of the Senate the right to build the canal and the transfer of Colombia's interest in the Panama railroad the United States Government is to pay Colombia \$10,000,000 cash, which is in satisfaction of all privileges granted by Colombia for the period of the first ten years of the hundred years' lease. For the eleventh and all subsequent years, the United States Government is to pay Colombia an annuity of \$250,000.

After the reading of the treaty in the Senate the only criticism heard, and this was mildly expressed, was directed against the provision for joint governmental control of the canal strip. Some Senators seemed to think that control should have been vested exclusively in the United States. The State Department endeavored to get Colombia to consent to a complete transfer of authority over the canal strip, but on this point Colombia refused to yield, pointing out that such a provision would be contrary to its constitution and would, even if the constitutional limitation were overcome, prevent the ratification of the convention by the Colombian Legislature.

Considerable surprise and satisfaction were expressed by Senators over the remarkably low rate of the annuity. It is evident that this Government drove a pretty good bargain with Colombia in this convention. Colombia based its demands for an annuity of \$400,000 on the claim that through the transfer of territorial rights to the United States the Colombian Government would surrender \$200,000 received annually from the Panama Railroad Company and \$400,000 obtained from customs duties, lighthouse dues and other sources of revenue.

This claim was doubted by the State Department, which made an investigation that is said to have shown that Colombia did not obtain more than one-third the amount asked as an annuity. The request for an annual payment of \$400,000, therefore, was in addition to surrendering the sources of income mentioned. The Colombian Government resigns all rights in the Panama Railroad, which would have reverted to it at the end of a fixed period.

NEGROES AT THE WHITE HOUSE

SOUTHERN SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES INDIGNANT.

Officials at the White House Say the Negroes at the State Reception Were Federal Officers in Washington and That They Were Invited According to Custom.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Southern Senators and Representatives held little indignation meetings all day at the Capitol. The subject under discussion was the presence of several negro men and women at the White House reception in honor of Congress and the Judiciary last night, a circumstance which caused several Southern gentlemen, nearly all of whom are members of Congress, to leave the mansion in disgust. The incident and the facts which led to it were the absorbing topics of comment to-day, and indignant interviews with Southern Senators and Congressmen are being sent out to newspapers in the Southern States to-night.

It was ascertained to-day that the negro guests were John C. Daney, Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia and his wife and daughter, who accompanied him; Judson Lyons, Register of the Treasury, and six or eight other negroes, men and women, whose names are not known. Officials at the White House declined to-day to give the names of the negroes who were present, but it was explained that they were Federal officers in Washington, and that they were invited according to custom.

It was said at the White House that the families of negro officials of the Government in Washington are always invited to the State reception.

The colored guests had a rather lonely time of it at the reception. After the reading of the treaty and the formal letter of transmission sent by President Roosevelt, which contained nothing except a mere statement that the document transmitted was a convention between the United States and Colombia for the construction of an inter-oceanic canal, the treaty was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. The committee will have a meeting at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning to consider the treaty.

One of the principal provisions of the treaty is that relating to the control of the canal zone. It provides that the cities of Colon and Panama are to be taken out of the canal zone and are to remain under the exclusive control of Colombia. They are to be free ports, without tonnage, customs or other duties. The canal zone proper, with the exception of Colon and Panama, is to remain under Colombian laws, but the United States is to administer the canal zone exclusively by American officers.

No limit is placed on the time for ratification of the treaty.

The treaty provides that the government of the canal strip is to be martial law until the canal is entirely completed.

It was stated, and the fact seems to be established, that only in rare instances in the past has a negro man attended a White House reception, although invited to do so, and that probably no negro woman has ever been there. This statement, of course, applies only to the especially invited guests for a large reception. The guests of both sexes always attend the public receptions. The last evening reception of the winter at the White House has always been open to the general public.

The indignant Southern Senators and Congressmen to-day declared that President Roosevelt had committed a grave error in inviting negroes to last night's reception and that he offered them a personal insult. They declare that if invitations to negroes have been issued in past years, these invitations have not been accepted, and the fact that the negroes came this year is due to Mr. Roosevelt's attitude toward the race as exemplified in the Booker Washington incident and in many Southern appointments.

Senator Tillman gave a studiously insulting interview to the Southern newspaper correspondents to-day. He said: "The thing that bothers me most is the fact that my name was printed in the morning papers as among the guests present at the reception last night. This same mistake was made on the occasion of the diplomatic reception. I have not been to the White House, do not intend to go this winter and never expect to go there while the present occupant resides there. I do not want my name in the papers as being invited to the White House, and I do not want to prevent the practice of social equality that is, if he is a white man."

Senator Pettus of Alabama said: "The incident is a blunder. I do not think the negroes were really present. I don't blame guests for leaving."

Representative Griggs of Georgia said: "I am both shocked and surprised. I don't think Southern men will care to go to the White House with this example before them."

EARTHQUAKE IN CHARLESTON.

First Heavy Shock Since Disaster of 1886—No Damage Caused.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 23.—The first serious earthquake since the great disaster of 1886 was felt here at 8:11 o'clock to-night.

There was one distinct shock which was followed by ten vibrations, lasting six seconds. The severe shock was preceded by a loud roar which ceased just as the earth began to tremble.

Savannah, Columbia, Augusta and all intermediate towns got the same disturbance. At Summerville, the Eastern tourist colony got badly frightened and while the shock was stronger there than in Charleston no damage was caused.

The motion of the earthquake was from the west-northwest to south-southeast, covering a very big southern territory. Observer Jesunofsky of the Weather Bureau said that there was no danger to be apprehended from further disturbances.

There was little excitement in Charleston and this was confined to the shouting of negroes.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Jan. 23.—At 8:32 to-night many people in Augusta were thrown into a state of excitement by an earthquake shock that lasted eight seconds. Some ran out of their houses. No damage was caused. In a small shoe shop on Broad street a cobbler became frightened and in attempting to jump up from his bench to rush out overturned a kerosene lamp, setting fire to the house.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 23.—Two distinct shocks of earthquake were felt here to-night at about 8:15 o'clock. No damage was done. Reports from the seashore indicate that the shocks were of greater violence there than in the city.

THE COAL FAMINE OVER.
Enough in Town Now, and the Price Has Come Down.

Anthracite coal, which was selling at retail at \$10 and \$10.50 a ton on Monday, was down to \$8.50 yesterday. This seemed to be the general price. Some dealers, who had scheduled the price at \$7.50 for several weeks, said that their rates were unchanged.

Independent coal took another drop yesterday, the prices of cargoes ranging from \$7 to \$8 a ton.

Michael P. Burns of Burns Brothers, coal dealers, said last night that there was enough coal in New York now to keep people supplied. He added:

"The coal famine is a thing of the past. I believe. Even if a cold spell sets in, I think there will be no shortage of coal in this city."

The following statement was made by an official of the Lehigh Valley Railroad yesterday afternoon:

KING OSCAR LEAVES THRONE.

PRINCE GUSTAV MADE REGENT OF SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

Retirement Due to Poor Health and is Announced as Temporary—King is Seventy-four—Worried Over Illness of His Youngest Son Has Affected Him.

Stockholm, Jan. 23.—Owing to ill-health King Oscar has temporarily given up his sovereignty and has appointed Crown Prince Gustav as Regent.

The King's physicians have issued a bulletin to the effect that his Majesty has been for some time in failing health, and has been especially affected by his anxiety over the illness of his son, Prince Eugene. He is consequently in need of rest, and has accepted advice to withdraw for some time from affairs of State.

King Oscar of Sweden and Norway is 74 years old and has been on the throne thirty-one years. He married in June, 1857, Princess Sophia of Nassau, and four sons were born to him. Crown Prince Gustav, who is 45; Oscar, Duke of Gotland, who is 44; Carl, Duke of Westergotland, who is 42; and Eugene, Duke of Nerike, who is 38.

TO IMPEACH JUDGE HARNEY.
Montana House Passes a Resolution to Investigate Copper Mine Case.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 23.—By a vote of 39 to 23 the House of Representatives to-day took steps to institute impeachment proceedings against Judge Harney, who decided the famous Minnie Healy mine case in favor of F. A. Heiney and against the Amalgamated Copper Company. It has been charged that he was influenced illegally. Representative Conner, the Republican floor leader, introduced the following resolution, which was passed:

"Resolved, That Edward W. Harney, a Judge of the District Court of Silver Bow County, be impeached of high crimes and misdemeanors and of malfeasance in office, and that five members be elected by the House of Representatives to prepare articles of impeachment and present them at the bar of the Senate and prosecute the same."

Judge Harney's evidence at the disbarment proceedings against Attorney Shores of the Amalgamated company, whom he accuses of bribery, is understood to be the basis of articles of impeachment. This testimony had to do with the Judge's relation with Mrs. Ada N. Brackett at the time of the Minnie Healy trial.

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It is understood to be the purpose of this bill to take from Judge McMelean jurisdiction in the suit instituted by Judge Harney against Attorney Shores. He alleges Shores tried to bribe him in the sum of \$250,000, through the agency of a son of Senator Clark, to decide the Minnie Healy case against Heiney.

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Hopes to Increase Profits by Eliminating the Middlemen.

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LEFT VALISE WITH \$1,000,000.

Londoner Had It Put in Hotel Safe and Disappeared—Got It Again.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 23.—An impressive looking Londoner strolled into the Aldine Hotel, at Nineteenth and Chestnut streets, two weeks ago, carrying two large grips. He told the clerk that one of the grips contained a million dollars and requested that it be looked up in the safe. The Londoner went to his room with the other grip. The next morning he drove away and has not come back.

Proprietor William Mitchell, after two days had gone by, opened the grip in the safe. He found a wad of stock certificates and bonds, the lot being worth over \$1,000,000 at market prices.

A comparison of the stock certificates showed they were made out in the same name as that on the hotel register, and Mr. Mitchell wrote to one of the companies stating the facts of the owner's appearance and disappearance, and requesting that a search be made for him.

As a result he yesterday received a check from the owner of the securities, who is now in New York, and a request that the million-dollar valise be forwarded to him.

Although the reckless owner registered from London, he said he had arrived from San Francisco and had enjoyed such good company on the way here that his trip had been apparently greatly shortened. He has by this time received his valuables.

Mr. Mitchell declined to divulge the name of his guest.

"He was a nobleman of the third class," he said.

On what a nobleman of the third class is, Mr. Mitchell was vague.

SHAFT TO LEE AT GETTYSBURG.
Scranton G. A. R. Post Makes a Vigorous Protest.

SCRANTON, Pa., Jan. 23.—At the meeting of Lieut. Ezra S. Griffin Post, G. A. R., held in this city this evening, a committee was appointed to draft resolutions vigorously protesting against a bill introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature by Representative Cooper, providing for a monument at Gettysburg to the Confederate General, Robert E. Lee.

It is said that the bill is the work of Col. A. K. McClure. The Grand Army Post here at the meeting to-night was greatly worked up over the bill and some of the veterans showed considerable emotion during their denunciation of it.

NAMED FOR MISS ROOSEVELT.
Child of Deaf Mutes in Baltimore Christened in Sign Language.

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 23.—There was a baptismal service at the Methodist Episcopal Church of Deaf Mutes this afternoon at which a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Hollenshade was named after Miss Alice Roosevelt. All of the principals in the ceremony, including the minister, were deaf and dumb. The parents, who can neither talk nor hear, watched the proceedings which were conducted in the sign language.

STILL HOLD THE FORT

Venezuelans Again Under German Fire.

German Commander Reports That He "Destroyed It."

Decision at Washington Not to Enter Any Protest Against the Bombardment.

NEW—Hint That Further Aggression Would Be Offensive—German Declaration That Fort Fired the First Shot—Venezuelans Rally at Maracaibo to Resist a Landing Party From Warships.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.
CARACAS, Jan. 23.—The German warships Vineta, Gazelle and Panther are apparently finding the reduction of Fort San Carlos a far more difficult task than they expected it would be.

The bombardment was continued to-day, and despite the fact that the fort had been badly damaged by the German shells, the garrison is still holding out gallantly.

So far as can be learned the German vessels have not suffered from the fire of the fort. Even the gunboat Panther, the smallest of the three vessels engaged, which has done its fighting at closer range than the others, does not appear to have been damaged to any appreciable extent.

It is impossible to learn what is passing inside the fort to-day.

The excitement among the Venezuelans over the action of Germany has reached fever heat, and her course is condemned in unmeasured terms on every side.

GERMANS CLAIM VICTORY.
BERLIN, Jan. 23.—The following despatch from Commodore Schoder, Commander of the German squadron in Venezuelan waters, has been received here:

"MARACAIBO, Jan. 23, via Wilhelmstad. "On Jan. 17 the Panther, as she was passing the Maracaibo bar, was unexpectedly attacked by Fort San Carlos, which opened a heavy fire. The Panther replied and a cannonade was exchanged for half an hour. The Panther then desisted owing to the difficulties of navigation. In order to exact immediate punishment for this attack, the more so as the Venezuelan Government had proclaimed it to be a victory, I bombarded the fort with the Vineta on Jan. 21 and destroyed it."

NO PROTEST FROM US NOW.
But Feeling in Washington is That Germany Has Gone Far Enough.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Assurances that there is no immediate danger of serious trouble with Germany on account of the seemingly unnecessary bombardment of the Venezuelan fort was given by the attitude taken by the President and the Cabinet to-day after a discussion of the aggressive acts of the German naval force in the vicinity of Maracaibo.

For the present the Administration has no intention of changing its policy of non-interference in the Venezuelan imbroglio unless the seizure of territory of that country by the allies, or any of them, is threatened. At the same time, however, the President and his advisers are inclined to believe that Germany has already gone too far and are of the opinion that a continuance of aggressive acts, which will not further the efforts of the allies to collect their claims, would furnish justification for intervention by the United States between Venezuela and her powerful enemies.

That the Administration is concerned over the situation is made evident by the remarks of Cabinet officers after their meeting to-day. They maintained that the United States had no business whatever to interfere in Venezuela and sought to give the impression that there was no occasion for any excitement in this country. It is known, however, that the feeling of the inner Administration circle is strongly condemnatory of Germany's acts and that the fear of provoking the Government may be forced into unpleasant relations with what nation.

It was at the Cabinet session that the seriousness with which the prevailing conditions in Venezuela is regarded, was brought out strongly. A temperate and tactful policy on the part of the United States was regarded as necessary to prevent friction. The President was advised by the President and his advisers in consequence of their consideration of this momentous matter are believed to be correctly set forth in the following statement:

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